

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the due consideration given the application. No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this Response.

Claims 1-24 are pending in the present application.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner has restricted the claims of the invention into the following groups:

- I. Claims 1-14, drawn to a liquid crystal display device; and
- II. Claims 15-24, drawn to a method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display.

The Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-14 with traverse.

As set forth in Section 803 of the MPEP, the Examiner must examine an application on the merits if the examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden. Two criteria are identified for proper requirement for restriction:

- 1. The inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and
- 2. There must be a serious burden on the Examiner if the restriction is not required.

Applicants respectfully submit that a serious burden has not been placed on the Examiner to consider all of the claims in a single application. A review of the subject matter set forth in the claims would have an overlapping search. Thus a different field of search really does not exist with regard to the claims of the present application.

Further, Applicants particularly point out the intimate interrelationship between Group I and Group II. Group I is drawn to a liquid crystal display device. The method of independent claim 15 of group II essentially incorporates the subject matter of claim 1 of Group I. As a

result, a finding of allowability of claim 1 of Group I would also render claim 15 of Group II (and its dependent claims) instantly allowable. As a result, no burden is placed upon the Examiner to examine all the claims of the invention on the merits.

Accordingly, rejoinder and examination of all of the claims of the invention on the merits is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

If there are any questions regarding this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 42,593) at 703-205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,



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